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SENATE BILL 2271

By Springer

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50 and Title 56, relative to "The Responsible Employer Act of 2000".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, is amended by adding Sections 2 through 5 of this act as a new chapter thereto.

SECTION 2. This act shall be known and may be cited as "The Responsible Employer Act of 2000".

SECTION 3. An employer with no less than twenty-five (25) employees receiving pay which contracts with state or local governments to provide goods or services shall certify that such employer offers health care coverage to its full-time employees. The health care coverage offered to employees shall be equal to or greater than the basic health care coverage established by the Small Employer Group Health Coverage Reform Act, compiled in title 56, chapter 7, part 22. Employers may provide health care coverage themselves or employers may contract for health care coverage. No local or state governmental agency shall enter into any contract for goods or services with an employer which does not comply with the provisions of this act unless such goods and services are sole source goods and services.

SECTION 4. For the purposes of this act, local governments means counties, cities, metropolitan governments, utility districts, towns and other such municipal and public corporations of the state.

SECTION 5. If it is determined that an employer subject to the provisions of this act has entered into a contract with a local or state governmental entity and such employer does not offer health care coverage to its employees pursuant to this act such employer shall be prohibited from entering into another contract with any local or state governmental entity for not less than one (1) year from the date such violation was discovered and verified.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000, the public welfare requiring it.